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Sixtieth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 52 (h)
Sustainable development: Convention on Biological Diversity

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Stefano Toscano (Switzerland), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.22

Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000, 56/197 of 21 December 2001, 57/253 and 57/260 of 20 December 2002, 58/212 of 23 December 2003 and 59/236 of 22 December 2004,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1]

Reiterating that the Convention on Biological Diversity[2] is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources,

Noting the reports of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment,

Recalling the commitments of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to pursue a more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity, which will require action at all levels, including the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Malaysia for hosting the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the

[1] See resolution 60/1.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

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Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, held in Kuala Lumpur, from 9 to 20 February and from 23 to 27 February 2004, respectively,

Expressing its deep appreciation also to the Government of Brazil for its offer to host the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, to be held in Curitiba, from 20 to 31 March and from 13 to 17 March 2006, respectively,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity transmitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session;[3]

2. *Notes* the recent progress made with respect to the achievement of the three objectives set out in the Convention on Biological Diversity;

3. *Urges* all Member States to fulfil their commitments to significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010, and emphasizes that this will require an appropriate focus on the loss of biodiversity in their relevant policies and programmes and the continued provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries, including through the Global Environmental Facility;

4. *Reiterates* the commitment of States parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety[4] to support the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol, as well as other biodiversity-related agreements and the Johannesburg commitment for a significant reduction in the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010, and to continue to negotiate within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, bearing in mind the Bonn Guidelines,[5] an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources; and reiterates also the resolve of all States to fulfil commitments and significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010 and to continue ongoing efforts towards elaborating and negotiating an international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing;

5. *Reaffirms* the commitment, subject to national legislation, to respect, preserve and maintain the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their utilization;

6. *Takes note* of the tenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the meetings of the Ad Hoc Open-

[3] A/60/171, sect. III.

[4] See UNEP/CBD/ExCop/1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex.

[5] UNEP/CBD/COP/6/20, annex I, decision VI/24A.

ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing and the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas;

7. *Notes* the progress made at the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the continuing efforts towards the implementation of the Protocol, and stresses that this will require the full support of parties and of relevant international organizations, in particular with regard to the provision of assistance to developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition in capacity-building for biosafety;

8. *Invites* the countries that have not yet done so to ratify or to accede to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

9. *Invites* the parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention to consider doing so;

10. *Invites* countries to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;[6]

11. *Encourages* developed countries parties to the Convention to contribute to the relevant trust funds of the Convention, in particular so as to enhance the full participation of the developing countries parties in all of its activities;

12. *Urges* parties to the Convention to facilitate the transfer of technology for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with its provisions;

13. *Takes note* of the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[7] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[8] and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and further encourages continuing cooperation in order to promote complementarities among the secretariats, while respecting their independent legal status;

14. *Stresses* the importance of reducing duplicative reporting requirements of the biodiversity-related conventions while respecting their independent legal status and their independent mandates;

15. *Invites* the States parties to the Convention to provide the new Executive Secretary of the Convention with full support for the fulfilment of his mandate and towards promoting the implementation of the Convention;

16. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to continue reporting to the General Assembly on the ongoing work regarding the Convention, including its Cartagena Protocol;

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[6] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Conference of FAO, Thirty-first Session, Rome, 2-13 November 2001 (C2001/REP), appendix D.*

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[8] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

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Sixtieth session
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Agenda item 58 (a)
Training and research: United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee, Mr. Abdulmalik Alshabibi (Yemen), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.39

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997, 53/195 of 15 December 1998, 54/229 of 22 December 1999, 55/208 of 20 December 2000, 56/208 of 21 December 2001, 57/268 of 20 December 2002, 58/223 of 23 December 2003 and 59/252 of 22 December 2004,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Acknowledging the work of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research on the functioning of the Institute,

Noting the continued progress made by the Institute in its various programmes and activities, including the strengthened cooperation with other organizations of the United Nations system and with regional and national institutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Noting the slight improvement in the financial situation of the Institute, and expressing its appreciation to those who have contributed to this improvement,

Noting however, that the bulk of the resources contributed to the Institute are directed to the Special Purpose Grants Fund rather than to the General Fund, stressing the need to address that unbalanced situation, and also noting that the

[1] A/60/304.

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participation of the developed countries in training programmes in New York and Geneva is increasing,

Noting also that the Institute is funded from voluntary contributions and that it delivers, free of charge, training courses to diplomats and delegates accredited to United Nations Headquarters in New York and to the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi,

Noting further the various ongoing training programmes of the Institute, including those in the field of sustainable development,

Reiterating that training activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of a coordinated United Nations system-wide approach to research and training, based on an effective coherent strategy and an effective division of work among the relevant institutions and bodies;

2. *Also reaffirms* the relevance of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, in view of the growing importance of training within the United Nations and the training requirements of States and local authorities, and the relevance of the training-related research activities undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

3. *Welcomes* the progress made in building partnerships between the Institute and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training programmes, and in this context underlines the need to develop further and to expand the scope of those partnerships, in particular at the country level;

4. *Requests* the Board of Trustees of the Institute to continue to ensure fair and equitable geographical distribution and transparency in the preparation of the programmes and in the employment of experts, and in this regard stresses that the courses of the Institute should focus primarily on development issues and the management of international affairs;

5. *Renews its appeal* to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that have interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in view of the successful restructuring and revitalization of the Institute;

6. *Encourages* the Board of Trustees to consider diversifying further the venues of the events organized by the Institute and to include the cities hosting regional commissions, in order to promote greater participation and reduce costs;

7. *Stresses* the need for the expeditious resolution of the issues related to the Institute's rent, rental rates and maintenance costs, taking into account its financial situation, as recommended in the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

8. *Encourages* the Board of Trustees of the Institute to continue its efforts to resolve the critical financial situation of the Institute, in particular with a view to broadening its donor base and further increasing the contributions to the General Fund;

9. *Urges* the Board of Trustees of the Institute to complete expeditiously the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors made in respect of the 2002-2003 biennium;[2]

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including details on the status of contributions to and the financial situation of the Institute;

11. *Invites* the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, in accordance with article XI of the statute of the Institute, to consider the desirability of amending article V, paragraph 2 (j), so that the report of the Secretary-General may be submitted to the Economic and Social Council rather than to the General Assembly.

[2] See A/60/113, sect. IV.G.